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SPECIAL LIBRARIES

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NUMBER 2

Religious Libraries in Profile
Hollis Webster Hering

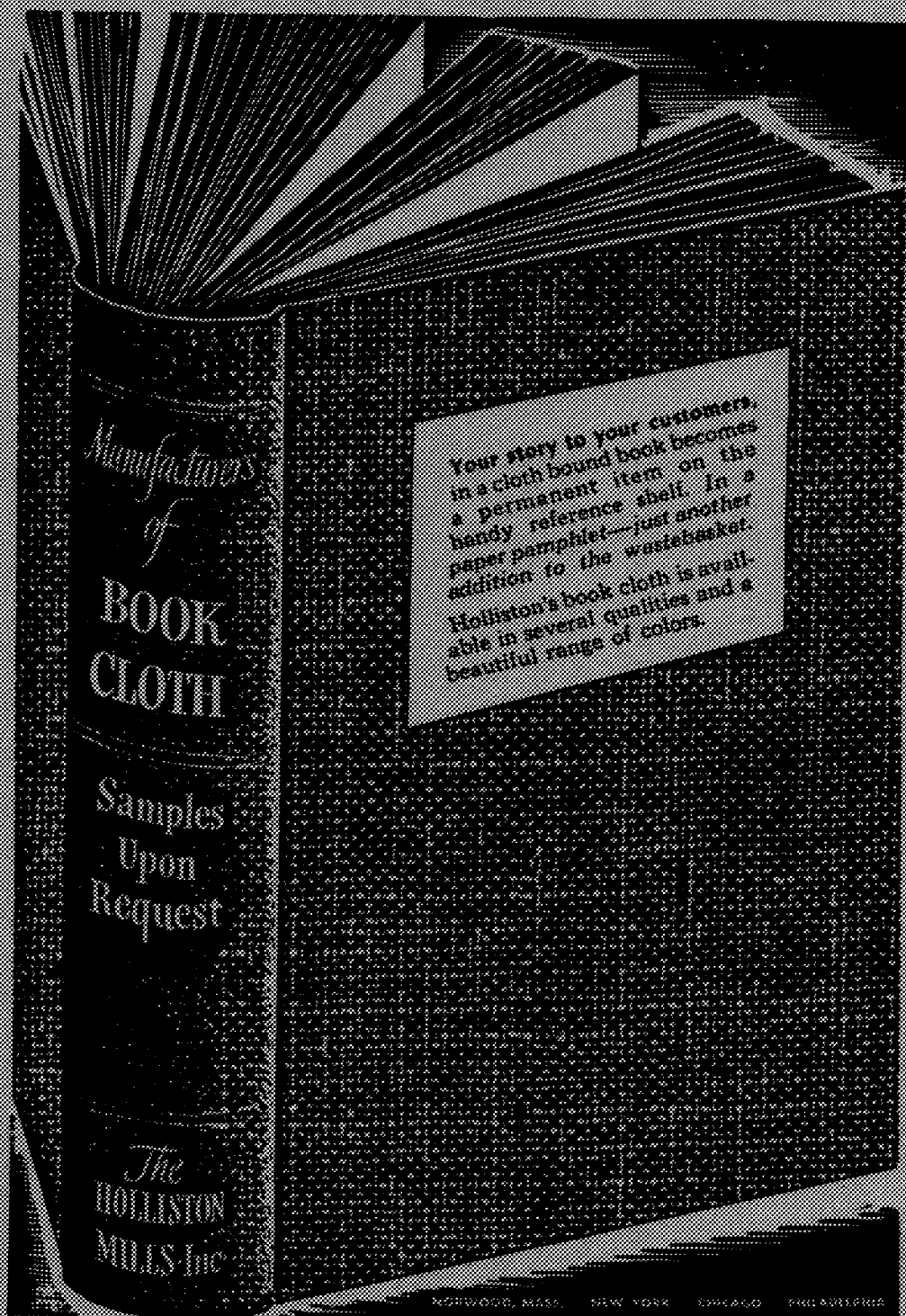
Administration of a Library of Religion
John F. Lyons

Classification and Cataloging in Theological Libraries
Helen Gardner Uhrich

The Religious Library and the Professor's Attitude
R. Pierce Beaver

Cooperation in Boston
Francis W. Allen

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*Indexed in Industrial Arts Index, Public Affairs Information Service, and
Library Literature*

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The articles which appear in SPECIAL LIBRARIES express the views of the authors, and do not necessarily represent the opinion or the policy of the editorial staff and publisher.

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RELIGIOUS LIBRARIES IN PROFILE

By HOLLIS WEBSTER HERING

Formerly Librarian, Missionary Research Library, New York, N. Y.

THEY were discussing the sermon preached that morning by the young theological student, and over which he had agonized at the seminary. "But, heck!" protested the deacon a bit indignantly, "thet wan't theology; thet wuz jest common sense." Well, perhaps the deacon's judgment was based on a different definition of theology from that understood by the student. Definitions may seem prosaic, but they are generally useful, and frequently essential if we are to understand what the other fellow is talking about. Let us, therefore, start with a definition or two.

DEFINITION OF A RELIGIOUS LIBRARY

What do we mean by "religious library"? For this survey, let us say that a library is a collection (indeterminate in size) of ideas inscribed in such permanence of form that their recording may be consulted by various people at varying times. We fully recognize the multitudinous materials which, in the course of time, have been used to ensure the desired permanence:—walls of caves, stone, papyrus, vellum, paper, microfilm, etc. Furthermore, we are quite aware that methods of inscribing these recordings have been equally numerous—as for example, pictographs, cuneiform, heiroglyphics, hand illuminations, braille, print. In this paper, however, discussion is being limited to libraries of the present day in the U.S.A. And "religious"? Here the *American College Dictionary* gives us yeoman service, defining religious as "pertaining to the quest of the values of the ideal life, involving the ideal, the practices for attaining the values of the ideal, and the world view relating the quest to the environing universe." Please note that here we are confronted by the formidable breadth of scope indicated in the phrases "world view" and "environing

universe." The staffs of religious libraries suffer from an occupational disease of acute indigestion due to feeling the pressure to "describe the universe and give examples." We now, I hope, understand to what we refer in this introductory survey when we use the term "religious library."

TYPES OF RELIGIOUS LIBRARIES

In general, there are three major types of religious libraries:

1. There are the libraries in such theological seminaries as are themselves, in turn, integral units of greater educational institutions. These seminaries may or may not have a denominational tinge. Princeton Theological Seminary is frankly Presbyterian (U.S.A.); one of the cherished possessions of the Divinity School of Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, is a lovely little room devoted to Wesleyana; while the Divinity School of the University of Chicago goes its way in proud impartiality to such denominational divisions. It is obvious, however, that in all religious libraries of this type problems of scope and implementation are greatly influenced by proximity to and co-operation with the university libraries and their centralized processes. There is no need for the seminary library to allocate funds from its limited budget for purchases in fields well covered by its university library, as for example, histories of foreign countries, techniques of physical anthropology, problems of mapping new terrains, etc. Nor need it maintain a large cataloging staff when much of its cataloging is done for it in this department of its university library.

2. There are the libraries in what may be termed non-attached seminaries. Such seminaries are frequently denominational in origin and support, a

condition bearing sharply on the content of the library. General Theological, in New York City, serves Episcopalians; Lutherans will think at once of Mt. Airy; an Evangelical and Reformed Seminary is at Lancaster, Pa.; there is the great Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City; the well known Catholic institution for training missionaries is at Maryknoll, N. Y. But there are also union or non-denominational seminaries ranging in size from the truly notable Union Theological Seminary in New York City to the lovely little Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, Cal.

Many of these seminaries are located in fortunate proximity to other educational institutions with the libraries open reciprocally to each others' needs. Thus the Pacific School of Religion nestles close to the University of California and frankly considers this location a factor of great importance in its use of its library funds. Inter-library borrowing in such cases of proximity is usually quick and adequate in general fields, and the students of the institutions are given full privileges in the respective libraries. Libraries in these non-attached seminaries must themselves solve their problems of scope, acquisition, implementation, etc. With no central library on which to fall back, these non-attached religious libraries face a greater drain on their budget in general fields than do those libraries of Type 1. Their scope of acquisitions and their need for high technical training on the part of the staff are usually based on quite different criteria from those of our previous class.

3. Finally, there are a few "specials," serving organizations other than educational institutions. These "specials" usually concentrate on some particular phase of religious work and are perhaps best exemplified by the Library of the American Bible Society and by the Missionary Research Library, both of New York City. The American Bible Society concerns itself with the distribution of

the *Bible*, and its Library contains upwards of 16,000 significant issues of this Book or parts of it. These are in over 900 different languages or dialects with a known 200 other written languages not yet represented, to say nothing of primitive dialects to be reduced to writing. The problems posed by these unwritten dialects form the basis for a most active course in the Summer School of Linguistics conducted annually at the University of Oklahoma at Norman. This Summer School in 1948 was attended by some 200 missionaries and presented lectures by the Librarian of the American Bible Society.

The Missionary Research Library occupies a distinctly anomalous position. Founded, and for years owned exclusively by the international Foreign Missions Conference of North America, it is now also partially owned by the Union Theological Seminary in whose buildings it is housed. It is not, however, a part of the Seminary Library, and it operates with an independent and distinct budget, staff and implementation. As an added complication, the Research Library houses and administers the missionary section of the Seminary Library, this being classified under a different scheme from that used in the section owned by the Foreign Missions Conference. Despite gloomy predictions this arrangement in reality works very satisfactorily.

In this general class of "specials," mention should be made of the libraries serving the Boards of a denomination. The problems of these libraries are quite individual and sharply conditioned by the needs of the respective denominational executive and field secretaries. These needs are largely in the general field of promotion and as a result the libraries are usually active in circulating books and pamphlets among the constituency of the denomination throughout the country. These libraries, however, are also frequently the custodians of their respective denomina-

tional records, thus being faced with the problems of handling and preserving pictures and archives.

CONTENT AND PROBLEM OF RELIGIOUS LIBRARIES

You will remember that in the definition of "religious" are noted the two facets of the *quest* for the values of the ideal life and the *relating of these values* to the environing universe. These facets involve ultimately not what we should include but what can be ruled out. Moral philosophy, social anthropology, comparative religion, hymnology, religious art and architecture, prison reform, family relations, church and community—these all are obviously to be included. Religious libraries need not include text books as such on, let us say, morphology, but it is a poor, if not a moribund library, which can not produce for its readers at least some material on literacy campaigns throughout the world. By the same reasoning, many of the religious libraries may decide not to keep collections of books in African or Oriental languages and dialects, yet it is imperative that they be able to give their patrons information on the work of the Bible Societies from such great ones as the British and Foreign Bible Society and the American Bible Society down to the small but significant Wycliffe Bible Translators. These all work on translations of the *Bible* into the languages and dialects of the world and on the reduction of primitive languages to a permanence of form, as previously noted. Knowledge of their output is surely to the point in religious libraries.

My own particular work has lain in gathering material relating to the fields and techniques of foreign missions. In this connection I was much interested in an item in the August 12, 1948, issue of the *New York Times*. This mentioned the organization by the Foreign Missions Conference of a cooperative radio and mass communications committee to develop strategically located recording

stations and radio programs abroad. The item continues: "Other projects earmarked for the expansion agenda include a mass literacy campaign, special health programs and agricultural work." Is it to be wondered at that at times the staffs of our religious libraries become completely goggle-eyed over the question of scope? Our anchor to windward, however, remains steadily the fact that all acquisitions, potential or actual, are appraised for their significance in relating the values of the quest to the "environing universe." And so the range runs from sweet little stories for the infant class in ever increasing complexity to the awesome section on "theological propaedeutics."

Many of our problems are common to all libraries, to be solved by accepted standard practices. The problem of pamphlets is a perennial one. From the time when Moses became the guardian of the two stone tablets noting the laws of the United Tribes of Israel to the present day with its necessity of including the Charter of the United Nations of the World, pamphlets, fliers, etc., have cluttered the religious libraries. Again, how can an inadequate budget be stretched to cover ever growing purchasing needs? Can limited stack space already filled to overflowing be further packed with rapid acquisitions? The problem of material which mysteriously takes unto itself two feet and disappears out of the front door is not unknown, and many a wistful glance has been cast on those cathedral libraries which attempted to solve the problem posed by the light-fingered gentry by uncompromisingly chaining their books to reading desks and stack stanchions.

The special problems of religious libraries, on the whole, lie in the fields of classification and cataloging. The two major schemes of classification coming into general use for religious material are those of the Library of Congress and of the Union Theological Seminary. For the latter we are indebted to the

brilliant work of Miss Julia Pettee when, as head cataloger at the Seminary, she recataloged its entire library, changing the classification from a fixed to a relative one. But since these fields are to be discussed elsewhere in this issue we need not further enlarge upon them here.

Scant attention has so far been paid to the problem of library publicity as such—too scant, in the opinion of some. Bulletin boards, bibliographical lists and reviews, and notes of acquisitions sent to our constituencies are of course in general use. That publicity is in process of being studied is shown by the publication of this very issue of *SPECIAL LIBRARIES*. Perhaps, also, there may be help at this point from the youthful American Association of Theological Schools. The Special Libraries Association contains no national Group of religious libraries. But co-operation among these libraries on national lines is a function of the American Association of Theological Schools and there are various local groupments. New York City has a small but active round table, and Chicago a very forward-looking group in the general area around the University of Chicago Divinity School. These co-operative efforts are all being carefully nursed along in the hope that there will eventually be a truly strong and worth-while national organization of religious libraries.

STAFF: REQUIREMENTS AND LIFE

What are the qualifications looked for in the staff of the religious library? Actually they are the same as those desired in all libraries. A broad general education supplemented by a sound technical library training is of primary importance. A lively interest in the world at large and an ability to meet

the patron's point of view are *sine qua non's*. Tact, personality, good manners, sound common sense, and (be it whispered) the knowledge of when and how to bluff successfully are essential. Familiarity with at least one modern language other than English is practically an imperative.

And what of the life of the staff? Paraphrasing our deacon—heck, we're no oddities, we're just human beings. We have our fun; many a chuckle followed the little bride who borrowed for her honeymoon reading a three volume set of Calvin's *Institutes*. That she promptly developed a severe case of mumps the staff considered a righteous retribution, but she probably consoled herself with the conviction that it was all predestined and foreordained. We have our impromptu concerts, as when the student assistant, absorbedly tapping the glass lamp-shades in the reading-room, tinkled forth the first two lines of "A mighty fortress . . ." There are moments of acute chagrin, typified by the horrible time when, after weeks of work in gathering for a Convention the best fundamental reference books, a frantic search revealed the omission of the *Bible*. We exult loudly when, becoming hawk-eyed sleuths, with smug satisfaction we produce the desired book—the one and only clue being the helpful statement that "we used it about four months ago." And at intervals we agree fervently with the assistant who, in bored exasperation, exclaimed: "For a plugged nickel I'd pitch the whole library out of the window."

Yet through it all we find a golden thread of inspiration, and we are grateful for our share in "the quest for the values of the ideal life"—and the relating of it "to the environing universe."

THE ADMINISTRATION OF A LIBRARY OF RELIGION

By JOHN F. LYONS

Librarian, Virginia Library, McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, Illinois

THE administration of a religious library, like that of any other, is conditioned largely by the size of the collection and by the service it renders.

SIZE OF LIBRARY

As a special library, religious libraries are large. Union Theological Seminary, New York, has the largest library of the kind in this country. It gives the following enumeration of its holdings: 238,568 volumes, 94,253 pamphlets, and 2,402 manuscripts and type-scripts. Princeton Theological Seminary is not too far behind, with 167,580 volumes and 50,986 pamphlets. Yale Divinity School has "over 150,000 volumes plus 100,000 in the field of religion in the main library of the University." Andover-Harvard has 144,424 volumes and 53,896 pamphlets. The library of McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, over which the present writer has had the honor to preside for the past thirty-six years, is approaching the 100,000 volume mark.

As with other special libraries, the size of libraries of religion is due to (1) accumulations from the past, and (2) the current output of literature in the field.

Accumulations

The accumulations from the past are large and of great importance. This is owing, in part, to the fact that from the beginning of the history of the world people have been interested in religion, and also to the fact that devotees of religion have been the chief ones to make and preserve literary records.

This is especially true of the Christian religion and its predecessor and contemporary, Judaism. For Protestantism the *Bible* is a supreme source of

authority. Copies of the *Bible* alone make a good sized collection—in the original Hebrew and Greek, the hundreds of translations both ancient and modern, some of great importance such as the Septuagint, the ancient Greek translation of the Old Testament, or the Vulgate, the Latin translation made by Jerome.

In a library that is used chiefly by those whose mother tongue is English, the hundreds of translations into that language are highly desirable, especially those that show the ancestry of the King James version as well as the more modern translations. Among those are Tyndale's *New Testament*, the Coverdale *Bible*, the Matthew *Bible*, the Geneva (Breeches) *Bible*, the Bishop's *Bible*, and the Douai *Bible* (Catholic).

The highest price ever paid for a book, £100,000 (\$500,000) was for a *Bible*. The British Government paid that amount in 1933 to the USSR for *Codex Sinaiticus*. This is one of, if not the oldest, manuscripts of the *Bible* in Greek, probably of the 4th century. It was discovered in 1844 by Tischendorf, a German scholar, in a monastery on Mount Sinai, whence the name of the manuscript.

One of the most beautifully illuminated medieval manuscripts is a copy of the *New Testament*, the Rockefeller McCormick *New Testament* of the 13th century. This was discovered in Paris a few decades ago by Dr. E. J. Goodspeed of the University of Chicago. It was purchased by Mrs. McCormick and is now in the library of the University of Chicago. It contains 124 miniatures.

Without question the most beautifully printed book was the one first printed, the Gutenberg *Bible*. Concerning this,

Rosenbach, the antiquarian, said twenty years ago in *Books and Bidders, the Adventures of a Bibliophile*, "Today it sells for more than \$100,000. More than \$1,000,000 will some day be a reasonable price for it."

Our libraries of religion cannot have these treasures as originals, but they can and do have these and many others only less well known in facsimile. We often do have, however, original manuscripts of the *Bible*.

The most precious volume in the library over which the present writer presides is a Latin manuscript *Bible* of probably the 14th century, written on the most delicate vellum, as thin and flexible as paper. The writing is beautifully rubricated, the initials being in red and blue. The letters of the main body of the text are as small as six point type. A magnifying glass is required to enable one to see how perfectly each letter was formed. The whole *Bible* is contained in a volume four inches thick, on pages 6 x 8¾ inches with wide margins.

In addition to the *Bible* itself there are the thousands on thousands of books that through the centuries have come from a study of the *Bible*. Many of these are classics in themselves and in turn have a large literature growing out of them. Among these may be noted Augustine's *Confessions*, 397; Thomas à Kempis' *Imitation of Christ*, 1417-1421; Calvin's *Institutes*, 1536; Jeremy Taylor's *Holy Living* and *Holy Dying*, 1650; Pascal's *Thoughts*, 1670; Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, 1678; and Wesley's *Journal*, 1738-1791. These are only a few of many Christian classics.

In addition to the rich heritage from the past in the classics is the source material both primary and secondary for the history of the Christian church. Libraries of religion are supposed to have these. They include such great sets as Migne's *Patrologiae*, both Latin, 221 volumes, and Greek, 162 volumes. Some of these have been translated in the *Ante Nicene Fathers*, 9 volumes, and

the *Nicene and Post Nicene Fathers*, 14 volumes.

Libraries of religion are supposed to be especially rich in primary source material concerning the history of their own denominations. These include complete files of year books and records of official meetings, national and international in scope, as well as of conclaves of more restricted geographical extent. It is such a library's business to collect and to serve as a depository for manuscript records, as well as others of regional denominational significance.

Libraries of religion should be equipped for more than merely the study of the Christian and Jewish religions. All religions, wherever and whenever found, are subjects for investigation. A set such as the *Sacred Books of the East*, 50 volumes, is a "must". Some of these will be wanted in their original languages. Some at least of the thousands of books written during the centuries on comparative religion are required.

Current Output

So much for the nature and extent of accumulations from the past in the field of religion. How about the current output? This, to many, is surprisingly large.

In point of numbers it was exceeded in 1947 in America by only Fiction (1722 titles) and Juveniles (877). The total for Religion and Theology was 630 titles. If the number in the closely related field of Philosophy and Ethics (299) is added to this, it makes a total (929) greater than Juveniles, making Religion second only to Fiction.

The situation in Britain, where they adopt a somewhat different classification, is much the same. There Religion and Theology comes fourth, rather than second or third, in the number of titles published in 1947. There also, Fiction leads with 2,326 titles, followed surprisingly by books on Trade, Commerce and Industry: 1,453 volumes vs. 228 on Business in America. Then comes Children's Books with 1,173 titles, and Re-

ligion and Theology with 630, to which might be added Philosophy and Science, 136.

It is to be noted that libraries of religion contain much that is not labeled religious. Louie D. Newton writing in *Publishers' Weekly*, February 14, 1948, on "What Constitutes a Religious Book?" says Toynbee's *Study of History* is "about the most religious book I have read in the year." Religion affects and is affected by almost all phases of life: social, economic, ethical. Consequently many books of history, literature, sociology and politics are needed in a library of religion.

Thus far in our consideration of current books we have taken into account only books in the English language. A large percentage of the books being added to the libraries of religion is in languages other than English. In the Union Theological Seminary *Select List of Recent Publications Added to the Library, August to October, 1948* we counted 396 titles. Of these 173 or almost one half were published outside of the United States and Britain and in languages other than English. These were in German, French, Swedish, Dutch, Italian, to mention only a few of the languages. The *Bible* is published in 1068 languages and dialects.

Two administrative problems that arise in connection with any library, accentuated as it becomes larger, are (1) housing and (2) making its contents available for use. Many libraries of religion have separate buildings wholly devoted to library uses but even in such cases the problem of space is an ever present one as the collections grow and increasing service is demanded.

One of the processes required in making library materials available for use is classification. Many libraries of religion use a ready-made classification such as Dewey or the Library of Congress, with perhaps some adjustments. Union Theological Seminary, however, under the leadership of Miss Julia Pettee, who

was formerly for many years a member of its staff, developed a classification for a theological library which is used by a number of other libraries of religion. The object of this classification is to bring theological books and non-theological books that have to do with each other as close together on the shelves as possible. Accordingly History of Christianity, for example, in the classification comes immediately after History, including Universal History, Ancient History, Medieval, and Modern General History.

SERVICE

Libraries of religion have been founded and are supported, for the most part, by educational institutions to train men and women for full time religious work.

The primary function of such libraries is to cooperate with the instructional staff of the institution. Thus there are two classes of people that most libraries of religion are established to serve, (1) members of the faculty and (2) students in the institution.

The Faculty

Those who teach in, or administer, a theological seminary are generally men of distinction in their fields. The names of almost all appear in various *Who's Who's*. Most are authors of some note. Many wear Phi Beta Kappa keys. All of them have earned post graduate degrees; most of them have earned doctors' degrees. They want many books in languages other than English. Requests from members of the faculty are met if at all possible, however great the effort required may be.

Members of the faculty are given special privileges. Each is given a key to the library. He can borrow as many books as he wishes, keep them as long as he likes (unless otherwise needed), and is not subject to fines. In return faculty members are cooperative, often furnishing books, when needed, from their own libraries.

The Students

Students are for the most part ma-

ture, responsible men and women and are treated accordingly. All are graduates of colleges or universities. Many come with masters' degrees and a few with doctors' degrees earned in other fields.

Observers have occasionally noted desk lights on in the reading room of our library at two and three o'clock in the morning. The explanation was that students in the library at closing time are allowed to remain as long as they wish—all night if need be. Books, when borrowed by students for special research purposes, can be kept indefinitely, not subject to fines. Students have access to the stacks. They can borrow any book in the library (even rarities) under certain conditions.

Students in return require but few reminders as to decorum. Discipline for students, if needed for any anti-social act such as abusing privileges afforded by the library, is at times administered by the Student Council. Each student is put on his honor in the use of the library; rarely does he disappoint us.

In administering the service of the library a helpful motto, learned in the Library School of Columbia University from Andrew Keogh, formerly Librarian of Yale University, is "Good feeling produces good results." We have found that if you trust people they will usually prove trustworthy.

Cooperative Projects

Rather late, perhaps, but none the less surely, the librarians of libraries of religion are learning the value of cooperative effort.

Last June the second annual conference of the American Theological Libraries Association, connected with the American Association of Theological Schools, was held at Dayton, Ohio. These conferences have been attended by representatives of practically all the Protestant libraries of religion in the United States. Certain cooperative projects are being carried out as results of these conferences.

Among these is one in out-of-print religious books with the questions: What out-of-print religious books are wanted? What can be done to secure their republication? Already results are being achieved and publishers are responding in a gratifying manner.

Another cooperative project is periodical exchange with the questions: What are the needs in the files of periodicals of the cooperating libraries? What are the holdings of duplicate periodicals in the cooperating libraries that are available? How can the exchange be facilitated? This project is getting into practical running order.

A third project is listing research studies in religion in the various libraries concerned, especially for masters' and doctors' degrees.

Finally there is proposed a survey of theological libraries along the lines of the ones made within recent years of libraries of colleges of liberal arts, and later of those of junior colleges.

Extension Service

Most, if not all, libraries of religion extend their services beyond their immediate constituency. The ministers in the neighborhood generally make use of such libraries. In at least one instance a small fee is charged for such extension service; this, so far as we know, is gladly paid. But most libraries of religion serve without charge those that come to them. In fact some do more than that. The General Theological Library of Boston, for example, pays the postage both ways on books borrowed by ministers in New England. With some other libraries the borrowers pay the postage one way.

Practically all libraries of religion have some sort of an arrangement for helping borrowers at a distance. In a few instances a fee is charged and in others the borrower pays transportation costs both ways. This service includes alumni of the institution, ministers of the denomination and others. In some instances geographical limitations are

specified. In others there are no such restrictions.

Some libraries have a special collection for extension service in order to avoid the possibility of interfering with meeting the needs of its immediate constituency. Others, such as our own, allow any book in the library, other than reference or reserve books, to go to any borrower who may request it.

THE SECOND MILE

The spirit of modern librarianship is to go the second mile. Each one perhaps finds his own way of doing this. What follows is a description of the present writer's second mile. Other librarians of religious libraries, it is certain, have found their ways of doing more than is expected of them.

Publicity

Early in the present writer's experience as librarian of a theological seminary some students who were graduating came to him and expressed a desire for some means of knowing what books the various professors of the institution recommended as the best for a pastor or missionary. In response to this request *The Alumni Book List* was started in a very small way, on the librarian's own financial responsibility. The first issue consisted of six mimeographed sheets giving, as its name indicated, lists of books specially recommended by members of the faculty. This publication grew, due to reviews being attached to books selected, also to the insertion of news of the institution and of alumni, and the inclusion of articles. In time it became *The Alumni Review*, a quarter-

ly of 80 to 100 pages per issue. Even in its enlarged form the selecting and evaluating of current books remained its primary purpose. For twenty-five years this editorial work was continued. Though it involved much extra effort, which was always a labor of love, it was highly rewarding.

Teaching

Another enjoyable and rewarding second mile was class room teaching. This grew out of student requests for guidance in selecting and organizing their own libraries.

Accordingly almost from the beginning of his administration the librarian offered elective courses that, in time, became the Department of Bibliography and Library Methods. The courses that were developed included the following:

History of the Art of Writing in its relation to the production and distribution of the *Bible*.

The Minister's Library: What it should contain, how it can be secured, and how to organize it.

Selective Bibliography, picking out the best books in the whole field of theological study.

Library Technique in Research: Methods of collecting, organizing and evaluating the items of a bibliography.

After eighteen years of such teaching, much of the time without extra pay, the librarian was rewarded by being made a full professor.

On the eve of retirement the present writer marvels that through the decades he has been paid for doing largely what he wanted to do.



CLASSIFICATION AND CATALOGING IN THEOLOGICAL LIBRARIES

By HELEN BORDNER UHRICH

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IT almost appears that Erasmus had the theological classifier in mind when he wrote to Bishop Fisher in 1524: "I know you are busy in your library, which is your Paradise." No librarian will argue the point of being busy, though doubt may exist in the minds of some as to the land of bliss and unsurpassed delight. When confronted with a literature that is one of the most extensive of all subject groups, the classifier and cataloger may wonder whether Paradise is lost or regained.

The discipline of theology has produced an old and extensive literature. Drawing on his religious experience, the consciousness of the church and the teaching of the *Bible*, man, through the years, has attempted to explain and defend his faith. His efforts to understand himself and to relate himself to the universe have been expressed in many ways, sometimes in simple elemental forms and sometimes in profound philosophical discourses. Ranging from the ephemeral to the erudite, from "crackpotism" to systematic treatises, from the simple apologia of a country parson to the writings of the Fathers in Migne's *Patrologia*, all are part and parcel of a collection of religious literature.

It is a literature in which viewpoints and approaches differ and in which presentation is extremely uneven. It may be questioned whether any other field of learning presents so many varieties of expression, with so much that is "good" and so much that is "poor" existing side by side. Because the literature has developed over many years and under all conditions, influenced by and influencing in turn every phase of life, it covers

a tremendous ground. However, scholarly or crudely written it may be, there runs through all of it a core that ties it together.

To the problems created by quantity of material and diversity of viewpoint is added language difficulty. One stream of theological writing issues from a church where the official language is Latin, another where it is Greek; one fountainhead is in Hebrew and another in Aramaic. Every modern tongue forms a tributary to this discipline. Finally, the literature has an idiom all its own which is learned only through long association and familiarity with the subject. Theological terminology is precise and the vocabulary complex. Here a little learning is a dangerous thing. One is either right or wrong in its use, and amateurishness is quickly detected. But in spite of this welter of differences, a person trained in the literature will find recurring motifs and definite patterns. Not infrequently what appears to be new developments or "restatements of modern theology" may be recognized as dressed-up versions of old doctrines or heresies. It is important for the classifier to know this.

For purposes of this paper we shall limit our discussion to the literature of the Christian religion, largely in the Protestant tradition, and primarily as this is found in the theological seminary library in this country. The experience of the writer has been in this field and for that reason, though deeply cognizant of the value and importance of all other areas of interest and approach and debtor to them, she would not presume to discuss except at the point where her

experience has been.

LITERATURE OF THEOLOGY

The literature of theology breaks down into four major divisions; biblical, historical, doctrinal and practical. The literature of biblical theology includes material on the *Bible* with its Jewish antecedents, its philology, archaeology, criticism and theology. Historical theology is concerned with the history of institutions. Doctrinal, dogmatic and systematic theology is an effort to make explicit the meaning of faith. Here are included specific theological doctrines such as God, Christology, salvation, eschatology and others. Practical theology is subdivided into topics dealing with church organization and polity, the ministry or priesthood, liturgics, homiletics, catechetics or religious education.

These categories are of long-standing and may be considered the natural divisions of theological literature. In spite of garnishes added from our curricular patterns and a contemporary vocabulary, one finds in these generic divisions a logical and traditional framework for the literature of theology. This is not to say that books on religion are necessarily written with these categories in mind any more than other books are written to fit certain niches in a particular classification schedule. We are all familiar with the square pegs which will not fit into round holes.

The problem of assembling and handling this material falls largely and naturally to the theological or seminary library, and it is to these institutions that we usually look for the large and important collections of theology. The theological library serves partly as a repository for the literature that will document man's religious history and partly to implement the educational program carried on through the seminaries. It aims to develop its book collection through systematic and persistent planning and exists to serve a homogeneous group or community. This is in contrast to what is true, for example, in

the public library. Apart from certain special collections, public libraries usually contain a limited amount of religious material, generally of a popular nature.

Neither is it likely that large collections of religion will be developed in college or university libraries. These collections are aimed at a comprehensive coverage of knowledge. Theology is only one of these areas, and therefore usually minor. Their library holdings in the field of theology and religion are often the result of haphazard collecting rather than long-term planning.

Even the Library of Congress collection of religion and theology has not been the result of a considered plan, and its adequacy has been criticized in this respect by both Catholics and Protestants. However, its collection is extensive and is, as someone has remarked, large enough "not to be sneezed at."

In the theological libraries where we expect to find the major collections the librarian is confronted with a task of a twofold nature. He must recognize the necessity of documenting a literature for the scholar and historian and at the same time must bear in mind that the library is, first of all, an educational unit serving a school and its instructional needs. He faces the temptation to broaden the scope of the library too much or to dig too deeply at one point. The demands for research and instruction must be kept in balance.

In order to carry out this tremendous task, the librarian must be supported by a staff exhibiting a high professional proficiency. Certain qualifications are not only desirable but essential for key positions in the theological and religious library. One of these is in the department responsible for the classifying and cataloging of books. At this point an effective performance of duty requires an intimate knowledge of the literature of theology, language equipment of the highest order, a wide acquaintance with the humanities and

general literature and thorough mastery in library techniques. Along with these qualifications may well be expected a sympathy toward the purposes of the school. In no case should there be antagonism. Supporting positions will require these qualifications in correspondingly lesser degrees.

Because of the complexity of the subject matter and the specialization and relatively high skill required for classification and cataloging, the implications for the catalog department are clear and far-reaching. The most effective and economical servicing of material requires a division of work in the department. Classification and assigning of subject headings combine as a natural and complementary unit and should be performed by those who know the subject and have the necessary technical skills. Descriptive cataloging can be carried out by assistants less skilled in the subject matter.

A wise administrator will seek the counsel of the catalog department on fundamental policies and principles involving acquisition, classification and cataloging. The catalog department interprets administrative policies in the form of actual processing and organization. These are matters of mutual concern, and there is much "give and take" all along the way. Classifiers and catalogers can be of invaluable help to the administration because of their familiarity with the books, the tools and equipment and the relative strength of the collection.

CHOICE OF CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULES

A far-reaching decision the library will be required to make involves classification. Policies involving the choice of a classification schedule are not to be determined without careful consideration of the purposes of the library and the ability of the institution to support the cost. Classification is an expensive process, and libraries cannot afford, nor should they expect, to reclassify their collections every generation. Life is a dy-

namic process, and books, in reflecting this process, exhibit a varied and ever-changing character. What appears to be good classification today may appear outmoded tomorrow.

In adopting a classification schedule we should bear in mind that a detailed schedule which is extremely minute in its classification of subjects will be relatively more expensive to maintain than one based on broad principles. A broad classification can be justified in terms of reduction of expense because the cost of classifying is materially reduced. Unless a library is financially prepared to support an elaborate classification schedule, it may be wiser to adhere to a schedule developed along broad lines. A library should not try to do something it is not prepared to do nor should it start something it cannot see its way clear to keep up year after year. It is a real question whether a library is justified in diverting a large proportion of its budget toward the maintenance of close classification or whether it might not be wiser to keep the categories broad and to utilize the time and money in the expansion of the catalog at the point of subject coverage, analyzing sets, etc.

Furthermore, the availability of material on the shelves for the general user is enhanced with a classification based on broad principles. In terms of actual stack use it attains a simplicity that closely classified books never achieve. While the minute distinctions involved in close classification may be apparent to the classifier, they are never so clear to the user and their significance at this point is lost.

It has been demonstrated in at least two special libraries that a broad classification will work. These are the Missionary Research Library in New York with approximately 75,000 volumes and the Day Missions Library of the Yale University Divinity School with holdings numbering over 70,000.

It may be that library science in this country, at least in the field of religion

and theology, has gone too far in making classification detailed and, therefore, expensive, without considering whether or not the end justifies the means. Perhaps we should ask the question whether, after books have been classified in great detail, we have actually accomplished the end we set out to do. It may be a snare and a delusion after all.

On the other hand, it can be argued that in giving up close classification we surrender the value of the shelf list as a reference tool. This, of course, would carry more weight in a closed stack library than one with open shelves. It is a question of balancing one value against another and making a choice on the basis of experience.

Not all books in the theological library require the same expensive handling and treatment. In the organization of the ephemeral material, simplification can be introduced without harm and without violating good cataloging procedure, as, for example, in the field of practical theology, i.e. sermons, religious education material, etc., apologetics, material of a popular nature, etc. A simple form of cataloging would be sufficient at this point, perhaps going even further than the *Rules for Descriptive Cataloging* recently issued by the Library of Congress.

A greater simplicity may be introduced for material the library wishes to keep but not to catalog and classify permanently at the time of acquisition. It would be a frank recognition of the unevenness of the literature and would effect real economy. These books might be set up in a "deferred" file, listing them with a simple author and title entry, possibly adding place of publisher and date, and arranging them in numerical sequence or even by size in order to conserve space. This listing would prevent duplication in acquisition and the book would be available to anyone requesting it. As such requests for use are received, the book could be

withdrawn from the "deferred" file and given more permanent records. As time goes on and it appears that a mistake was made in segregating this material or in what was selected for deferment, it is always possible to go back and give the books more adequate treatment.

An occasional culling of the book stock should not be overlooked. Certain material acquired to meet specific needs can be written off as "expendable" after it has served its purpose. Most libraries do not have space to clutter up their shelves with outmoded collections that are not important as permanent resources of the institution.

In presenting a case for broader classification it does not follow that the same argument is being advanced for subject headings. Conversely, the argument here is for headings that are specific, precise and meaningful. Subject headings that are so broad as to lose all significance should be avoided. The heading "Christianity," for example, is one of these. Traditional terminology and terms with definite historical connotations are to be preferred to modern nomenclature. At the point of general or nontheological headings the advice is, as far as possible, to follow Library of Congress subject headings unless there is obvious violence to the purposes of the catalog.

The usefulness of certain form headings should be examined, for instance, "Sermons, American," "Sermons, English," etc. At such points it may be sufficient to insert general reference cards in the catalog directing the user to the stacks or shelf list.

It is sometimes helpful to use subject headings that mean substantially the same thing but which approach the topic from different angles. Examples here would be headings for Old Testament and Jewish religion. Books in certain fields may be approached from different angles by developing a pattern of parallelisms. For church history both the denominational and the geographic-

al approaches may be used. Or again, in the field of missions, subject headings can bring out the denomination or group engaged in the work, the mission field or area where the work is being carried on and the type of special work the group is performing.

A word of warning might be interjected here on the purpose and function of the catalog. While the catalog must be developed fully and completely in order to serve its dual purpose as index and bibliographical tool, it can never carry completely the burden of research and reference work. The catalog exists to be interpreted. There is no substitute for knowledge of the subject and bibliographical competence.

CLASSIFICATION SCHEMES IN USE

This paper would not be complete without mentioning several of the classification schedules currently in use in theological libraries, even though space will not permit an evaluation of them. These are Dewey, Library of Congress, Lynn's schedule for Catholic books and the classification scheme developed for the Union Theological Seminary, New York, by Miss Julia Pettee.

The Dewey Decimal system (or modified Dewey) is a general classification scheme based on broad outlines of knowledge. It is limited in its basic conception of the nature and scope of theology and is therefore not too satisfactory for a theological library.

The Library of Congress classification has the distinction of being the scheme in use in a large national collection of great influence. It is minute and extensive and provides for a close classification. It is kept up to date and its printed cards provide classification numbers as suggestions or guides.

An Alternative Classification for Catholic Books was compiled for the Cath-

olic Library Association by Jeanette Murphy Lynn and published in 1937 by the Bruce Publishing Company and the American Library Association. The subtitle describes it as "a scheme for Catholic theology, canon law and church history to be used with the Dewey Decimal, Classification Décimale, or Library of Congress classifications." This schedule should be extremely useful for a Catholic collection and is a reference help for the special librarian in this field.

The *Classification of the Library of Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York* was devised for an independent theological collection by Miss Julia Pettee who was then Chief Cataloger of the Seminary. The revised and enlarged edition of this schedule appeared in 1939, the result of many years of testing and practical application. It is constructed from the point of view of theology and the needs of the special collection. It attempts to provide a scheme based "on the cleavage" generally accepted in the field of theology, with a "correlation of related topics." A supplement appeared in 1945 listing additions and emendations. Any library contemplating the adoption of this schedule should contact Miss Lucy W. Markley, Librarian of Union Theological Seminary, for a copy of *Suggestions to Libraries adopting the Union Theological Seminary Classification*.

We began this discussion with the words of one who thought the library was a Paradise. We conclude with the opinion of a noted British librarian who said that "classification is of the devil." Perhaps the truth lies somewhere between these two extremes. Only as we ourselves do make "a heaven of hell, a hell of heaven" will Paradise be regained or lost.

THE RELIGIOUS LIBRARY AND THE PROFESSOR'S ATTITUDE

By R. PIERCE BEAVER

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THE master, surrounded by his disciples, is one of the most cherished traditions of religion, and the most highly regarded scriptures of several major faiths have come out of the discourses of such a teacher to his pupils. The personal relations of the sage to his best-loved disciple, like that of Confucius to Yen Hui, Gautama to Ananda, Christ to John, is still the ideal of the teacher of religion. President Garfield once declared that "a log in the woods with Mark Hopkins at one end and a boy at the other" would constitute a genuine college. Anyone who is a teacher by vocation, and not just by profession, likes to think that a school of higher learning can be reduced essentially to such simple terms, and it is actually true of the theological seminary to a considerable degree. Such a school is usually small, many classes are informal, and the professor often does more real teaching in personal conferences and in fellowship with students in his home than he does in the classroom. Yet even in the theological seminary the institution cannot be reduced simply to the teacher and the student. They must have beside them a shelf of books.

ABUNDANCE OF THEOLOGICAL LITERATURE

Moreover, that shelf of books must be fairly extensive, since living religion is a blending of the witness of the faith across the ages with living experience in the present. That historical testimony is transmitted through books. Judaism, Christianity and Islam have been called "religions of the Book", and in each case "the Book" became the mother of vast libraries of books. During many long centuries almost all books in Eu-

rope were made in the scriptoria of monasteries and preserved and used in the libraries of churches, monasteries and universities, all of them ecclesiastical foundations. Theology, the queen of the arts, produced the largest number of books, and theologians are still prolific writers.

The invention of printing came just in time to make possible the publication and diffusion of the countless treatises and tracts inspired by the Reformation and the Roman Catholic replies to the same. Even during the greater part of our own national history the pastor's library was usually the best in the community, and the need for educating the clergy called the colleges into being and shaped their libraries. With the rise of theological seminaries, collections of books were sought for these schools with the same ardor as the solicitations of funds. Until very recent years the theological teacher enjoyed an abundance of books far in excess of other teachers and other professional men, and books have consequently been accepted too nonchalantly.

CASUAL ATTITUDE TOWARD THE SEMINARY LIBRARY

It might be supposed in view of this abundance of theological literature, that the library would have played a major part in theological teaching. However, excepting in a few schools of religion conducted upon the highest graduate level, the library played a somewhat minor part until very recent years. The books in the library were just for the professor's own mill, but not for his students'. The lecture and the text book were the teacher's tools of instruction. Long after the college library came to be regarded as a laboratory for creative,

constructive student thinking, the potential teaching value of the seminary library generally remained undeveloped. The reason for this probably lies in the ancient tradition of the master and pupil relationship in which the religious sage imparted to the neophyte both the body of knowledge and the wisdom requisite for relating it to the present. The fact that the ranks of the professors were filled by drafting or promoting successful pastors—frequently famous “preachers”—reinforced this tendency, and these men were often inclined to preach to their students as they had preached to their congregations. There seemed to be no more need for students to read than had there been similar need on the part of the congregation. Indoctrination rather than creative thinking resulted from this attitude and practice.

This tradition of teaching, coupled with the relative abundance of books for his own use, issued in a very casual attitude towards the library on the part of the professor. Moreover, that matter of fact acceptance of the library has not yet been greatly altered by the teacher's increased use of collateral reading and individual student research. As long as the library somehow provides fairly adequately the books for his own study and for the reading which he assigns his students, the professor accepts it as a natural phenomenon, a free gift from the Lord's bounty. Furthermore, the librarians themselves have contributed to the formation of this unfortunate attitude. They have usually been persons of profound religious devotion and complete conservatism who have regarded their office as a form of religious ministry. They have labored with zeal and selflessness, seldom making demands upon the administration and faculty, and with meagre resources have accomplished achievements, almost in the category of miracles. They did not soon enough puncture the complacency and unconcern of the average professor.

CLASSIFICATION OF SEMINARIES

It is dangerous to generalize and speak of the “average” library or of the “average” professor in a field where there is so much individualism, and yet there is some validity in the use of the term. There are certainly “above average” schools. They are those preeminent ones maintained on the highest university graduate level, where the library is made the means to creative thinking by the students, and where the professors manifest an intimate, even passionate, concern for the library. This sometimes results in problems for the librarian almost as difficult as those raised by faculty indifference elsewhere, but he can bear them with less anguish of soul. In the “average” classification are the majority of libraries and teachers in those numerous, small seminaries of the various churches, supported out of the current denominational budget with some additional income from endowment. These nominally operate on a graduate level but fall short of it in practice. The “below average” group is made up of a host of training schools which may call themselves seminaries, but actually have little pretension to academic standards. These three categories are not sharply defined, nor can each person or school be easily labelled. Theological teaching by and large is far above mediocre because of the degree to which the teacher gives unstintedly of his own spirit to his students. The peculiar attitude of the theological teacher towards the religious library is due largely to historical circumstances.

THE LIBRARY AS AN ESSENTIAL INSTRUMENT OF INSTRUCTION

The difference in attitude towards the library on the part of the average professor and the one who prizes and makes full use of a graduate level library in his teaching is easily discerned in their practices with regard to ordering and bibliographical service. Where the library is used as the essential instrument of instruction and of imple-

menting creative effort on the part of the student, the professor usually decides to control the acquisition of books for his department. He believes that only if the initiative lies with him can he be sure that the current literature in his field will be acquired at once and his students be able to keep abreast of current thought. He desires, therefore, that at least the major portion of the funds allocated to his department be spent for the items which he selects. With respect to major reference works and costly source materials, this teacher usually expects the right to make recommendations, but not to demand purchase. He recognizes that there is a danger of imbalance arising from his control of the book funds, since he may ride his own interests and hobbies too far, and he expects the librarian to maintain the proper balance within his department and between his department and those of the other professors. Moreover it would appear that he would usually prefer that the librarian take the initiative in filling in gaps in non-current literature.

Such a division of responsibility in book selection may cause the librarian some headaches, but it calls for close faculty-library cooperation, based on a definite general policy specifically adapted to each department. In a small seminary this adjustment is not difficult of attainment, and it has the advantage of making the librarian and the professor partners in a common enterprise. It puts a measure of responsibility on the professor, and it stimulates his interest in, and concern for, the total library program. In the average small library, on the other hand, the casual attitude of the professor leaves the entire responsibility for ordering to the librarian, who must somehow manage to keep abreast of the whole field of current theological literature. The writer has heard librarians lament that in the course of an entire year the majority of professors did not recommend the pur-

chase of a single book, and the remainder ordered only a few titles, despite the librarian's earnest attempt to enlist faculty cooperation.

The field of bibliography, on the contrary, presents a situation just the opposite of book ordering. The creative teacher who knows how to use a library effectively as an instrument of instruction usually knows also the primary value of source materials and relishes the adventure of seeking them out. He early introduces his students to research methods so that they, too, can share in the joy of such adventure. This teacher expects the library to provide the requisite bibliographical aids for himself and his students, but he and the students will themselves use these resources and not expect the library staff to do the research for them. Given a well-prepared catalog with sufficient subject headings and cross references, the *Readers' Guide*, standard book lists in his field, histories of the literature of his subject, the scholarly periodicals that review current literature in the special field, and the standard reference works, this teacher will refer a bibliographical question to the librarian only when he has exhausted every resource of which he has knowledge.

THE OVER-BURDENED SEMINARY LIBRARIAN

However, there are all too many teachers in the seminaries across the country who seem to regard the overburdened seminary librarian as their personal reference assistant and expect him to have the knowledge of a university professor. When they need a book list they ask him for it. When a student has a project, instead of guiding him in bibliographical research, the teacher tells the lad to ask the librarian for titles. Such men not only overwork their own librarian but also impose in the same way on central research libraries. The Missionary Research Library, for example, receives scores of blanket requests. The professors write: I am

going to give a course on...next semester. Please send me a list of the subjects which should be covered and a bibliography for the same." The students say: "I am doing research for a thesis on... I shall be very grateful for any information concerning published materials on this subject." "I am making a study of... Please send me any information that you may have." "Any information related to the subject of missions that you have available will be greatly appreciated." "Please give me a list of bibliographical material on British rule in India." This is simply thoughtlessness and not a deliberate by-passing of responsibility. This is a by-product of the still prevailing casual attitude of the average teacher towards the library.

The writer would like to prescribe a term of service in the foreign mission field for every theological professor. Among other results it would jolt him out of his casual acceptance of the library. In mission areas the entire body of Christian literature has to be recreated. Priority is naturally given to the printing of the Scriptures and the literature required for the immediate work of evangelism and Christian nurture. The theological professor finds himself without his usual tools, because two thousand years' production of classics and reference works cannot be translated in a few short years, nor can the scholarly works required for theological training in the vernacular be prepared in a few generations. The professor must frequently put into his lectures not only normal lecture content, but also a large part of the information which western students normally acquire from text books, reference works, and collateral reading. After an attempt to teach under such circumstances a professor can never again regard a library in a casual manner.

AVERAGE RELIGIOUS LIBRARY DENIED ADEQUATE RESOURCES

The lack of a vital concern for the library on the part of so many profes-

sors has had the natural consequence of denying the average, independent religious library, not connected with a university library, the resources to share in that splendid development of college libraries which has marked the last quarter of a century. They have been starved for funds, equipment and staff. Seminary libraries on the whole must now undertake a decided advance, and in most cases that calls for the allocation of a much larger share of the seminary's resources to the library. This will be possible only with the whole hearted support of the faculty, and that can only be when the library has become the vital concern of the teacher.

Fortunately, there are favorable forces now operating to enlist the active support of the theological teacher. The American Association of Theological Schools set up standards for the accrediting of seminaries which include requirements for the library. This has turned the attention of many thoughtful teachers to the library. Then the administrators of these schools in studying problems of administration and curriculum came to see ever more clearly that the library must be the very heart of the school, and the American Association of Theological Schools decided to concentrate on the improvement of libraries during the biennium 1948-1950. In the meantime a new generation of librarians equally well trained in theology and library science had arisen, still as deeply consecrated as their predecessors, but no longer willing silently to make the best of a bad situation and allow the library to play a secondary role in theological education.

THE AMERICAN THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The time is ripe for an advance. Two years ago the librarians organized a professional association under the sponsorship of the American Association of Theological Schools, and the American Theological Library Association came into being to work for the improvement

of theological libraries and librarianship. Seventy-six percent of the libraries of seminaries affiliated with the American Association of Theological Schools have already joined the Association, and a united attack on theological library problems is now possible. In fact it has begun. The findings and recommendations of both these associations will be referred to the seminaries, and the faculties will be forced to give a fuller consideration to the library.

The new American Theological Library Association with its membership made up exclusively of special libraries ought to maintain a close and cordial relationship with the Special Libraries Association, and it could profit by the knowledge and experience of the latter. Moreover, this new association concerns only the libraries of Protestant schools. Roman Catholic and Jewish seminary libraries are beyond its scope. There are also other types of religious libraries, less numerous, but important—those of the historical societies of the Churches, mission boards and other denominational agencies, interdenominational councils, and the like. The situation and outlook of all the religious libraries need to be faced in common. There should be a comprehensive fellowship of all religious libraries in every major center, similar to the Religious Group in New York City. This is a mission which the Special Libraries Association might well undertake. The co-

operation of the American Theological Library Association would undoubtedly be forthcoming and would facilitate the organization of local groups. A strong Religious Group within the Special Libraries Association ought to give powerful impetus to the accelerating development of the theological libraries.

CONCLUSION

Unfortunately, it will be long before this movement touches the numerous theological seminaries and training schools which are not affiliated with the American Association of Theological Schools, and which make little claim to academic standards. Nevertheless, the prospect is encouraging in the seminaries of the major denominations. The librarian is being accepted more widely as a faculty member and teacher. As he brings library matters to the attention of the faculty, his colleagues listen sympathetically. Professors of religion are as a profession fair and just. There is a sense of comradeship and community of purpose in their small companies, and they usually practice charity and brotherhood. There is a common loyalty which enables them to put first the larger good. There is reason to hope that as the teacher is realistically confronted with its problem, this traditional matter-of-fact acceptance of the library will be transformed into appreciation and concern which will express themselves in wholehearted cooperation with the librarian.

COOPERATION IN BOSTON

By FRANCIS W. ALLEN

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IN that "ex-Athens of America," Boston, there still can be found a few vestigial remains of the culture which flourished there some two centuries back. Though neither vestigial remains nor two hundred years old, the religious libraries of the Boston area

do attempt to render cultural services to their patrons, Bostonians and others.

As the Massachusetts Bay Colony was the seat of the early theocratic government in North America, we might expect to find here a fair number of libraries specializing in theology. There

are, to be exact, some twenty-two religious libraries in Greater Boston, consisting of eleven seminaries, six denominational headquarters, two independent interdenominational collections, two large, active parish libraries and one mission archives.

AN INFORMAL ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED

Early last year the librarians of four of the larger among these libraries, Andover-Harvard, Andover-Newton, American Board and Congregational, decided that an informal association of librarians of the whole number might be of some practical aid in solving common problems and acquainting the libraries with each other. As a result a call was issued and an organizational meeting held at the Congregational Library in April. Thirteen of the twenty-two libraries were represented, despite the typical Boston conference weather, a howling northeast storm. Inasmuch as the participants are all active in one or more of four national associations, SLA, A.L.A. Religious Books Round Table, Catholic Library Association and the American Theological Library Association, it was felt that this group should be kept as a purely local, informal organization. The writer was named liaison officer, the only office considered necessary. Two meetings a year are planned, one each spring and fall, and the fall meeting was held in November at the Andover-Harvard Library. We hope, in the normal course of events, to hold a meeting in each of the twenty-two cooperating libraries.

The subjects which have come up for discussion in the two meetings held so far have been not only interesting, but also already productive of some results.

DUPLICATE EXCHANGES ARRANGED

First to be worked out was a satisfactory system of duplicate exchanges. Rather naturally the smaller libraries benefit more under this arrangement, while adjustments have had to be made so as not to interfere with the commitments of some members to the Dupli-

cate Exchange Union.

Of even more importance has been the establishment of free interlibrary loan and telephone reference service among members of the group. As the different libraries have widely variant special collections, a common knowledge of these collections plus a free interchange of loan material is of inestimable value to patrons of all the libraries involved. For example, St. John's Seminary has a fine collection of scholastic philosophy; Congregational Library specializes in the ecclesiastical history of New England; Zion Research Library is very complete in biblical literature; and the denominational libraries like New England Baptist and New England School of Theology (Advent Christian) carry more or less complete files of the publications of their own general bodies. Thus a research worker in any one of the libraries has immediate access by telephone or messenger to any or all of the cooperating libraries.

On the administrative and financial side, a beginning has been made in the limitation of fields of purchase of the less popular and more expensive titles. To date, only three libraries are involved in this type of cooperation. The American Board Library and Congregational Library, housed in the same building, share bibliographical tools and review periodicals. Congregational Library also abstains from purchase of much material in the field of foreign missions. General Theological Library and Congregational have a more detailed scheme. General Theological is making itself responsible for all new material in general liturgics, while Congregational buys all significant publications in church architecture and in hymnology. Patrons of either library are serviced directly by the specializing library in these fields. In addition, special bibliographies on these subjects are published simultaneously in the quarterly bulletins of each library from time to time. It is hoped that these two li-

braries may work out further arrangements for limitation of purchasing, and that others may join in this plan.

Minor items involving more or less cooperation are coming up at intervals and are discussed among the librarians at the semi-annual meetings or in smaller groups at other times. Worthy of mention may be the services of the independent and denominational libraries to the seminary students. A good deal of pressure is relieved from the smaller seminary libraries through free loan to students by all libraries in the area. Bibliographic services and aid in cataloging problems are given by the larger to the smaller libraries, but this is almost a matter of course and will be found in any metropolitan area, association or no association.

LECTURE SERIES PLANNED

The Theological Library Group has one project which is still in the planning stage. It is felt that a lecture series on recent books in specific religious fields given by authorities in these fields would have a definite public appeal. All libraries in the group would be co-sponsors of such a series, thus drawing an audience from many differing religious groups in the city. For example, a discussion of recent New Testament literature by Dr. Henry Cadbury of Harvard, and a review of modern Catholic philosophy by Msgr. Fulton Sheen should bring a good turnout of ministers and interested laymen of all faiths. No dates have been set and no speakers engaged as yet, but a committee of the group is working on bringing this project to fruition.

So the Boston religious libraries, conservative though they may be, have decided not to wait for the ecumenical idea to permeate their churches, but are creating their own ecumenicity by co-operating with each other, regardless of

creed, to the fullest possible extent. We only hope that we can continue to work together in more and more areas of service as the years come and go.

MEMBERS OF THE BOSTON THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY GROUP

- American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions Library,
Miss Mary Walker, *Librarian*.
- American Unitarian Association Historical Library,
Mrs. Martha D. Watts, *Librarian*.
- Andover-Newton Theological School Library,
Rev. John H. Scammon, *Librarian*.
- Boston University School of Theology Library,
Miss Gertrude L. Allison, *Librarian*.
- Congregational Library,
Francis W. Allen, *Librarian*.
- Crane Theological School Library, Tufts College,
Prof. Raymond L. Walkley, *Librarian*.
- Eastern Nazarene College Library,
Evangelos Soteriades, *Librarian*.
- Episcopal Church. Massachusetts Diocesan Library,
Miss Grace A. Littell, *Librarian*.
- Episcopal Theological School Library,
Miss Elisabeth Hodges, *Librarian*.
- General Theological Library,
Miss Adele R. Herrick, *Librarian*.
- Gordon College of Theology and Missions Library,
William Bliss Wood, *Librarian*.
- Harvard University, Andover-Harvard Theological Library,
Dr. Henry Cadbury, *Director*
Miss Jannette E. Newhall, *Librarian*.
- Massachusetts New Church Union Free Library,
Miss Bernice L. Quimby, *Librarian*.
- New Church Theological School Library.
- New England Baptist Library.
- New England Methodist Historical Library,
Rev. Charles H. Stackpole, *Librarian*.
- New England School of Theology Library,
Mrs. Asa Colby, *Librarian*.
- St. John's Ecclesiastical Seminary Library,
Rev. John A. Broderick, *Librarian*.
- St. Paul's Cathedral Library,
Miss Margaret Walker, *Librarian*.
- Trinity Church, Trinity Parish Library,
Miss Florence D. Snelling, *Librarian*.
- Weston College Library,
Rev. Paul H. Ruttle, S.J., *Librarian*.
- Zion Research Library,
Miss A. Marguerite Smith, *Librarian*.

IT WILL HAPPEN IN LOS ANGELES

"IT" could be none other than Special Libraries Association's 40th Annual Convention, the event uppermost in the mind of all special librarians since that delightful Convention week spent in Washington in June 1948. Los Angeles and other West Coast Chapters can only approximate in excellence the offerings of last year's Convention but, for your information and, we hope, your enticement, we present now a "preview of coming attractions" of June 1949.

Convention headquarters will be the Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. The Convention will open officially on Sunday evening, June 12, with the reception of our visitors by national officers of the Association and those of the West Coast Chapters. The charming Renaissance Room of the Biltmore will provide the background for this scene of welcome and of greeting of old and new friends. Here you will meet all the "Who's Who" in special library circles and, through the guiding hands of an alert Hospitality Committee, all other members in whom you may have a special interest. The motif of the evening will be Spanish California in which pre-Convention visitors will have steeped themselves during the two previous days. Both the Spanish mantilla and Spanish friendliness will be very much in evidence; we hope you will find the evening a pleasing forerunner to an ensuing week's full and active days.

On Monday morning at nine-thirty, the First General Session will convene under the banner of our theme, "Blueprints For Action." Rose Vormelker, our national President, has set the tone of this meeting, as of later Group and General meetings, by supplying these pertinent key words as a guide for cooperative and far-reaching thinking. Here will be surveyed by an able special

librarian some of the problems confronting special librarianship and the necessity for action made clear.

And, as if to take time by the forelock, this meeting will be followed immediately by another where "Blueprints For Action" will have practical application. A general luncheon (tentatively priced at \$2.50) in the famed Biltmore Bowl will feature for several hundred librarians and Los Angeles business men a program designed to promote the local establishment of larger numbers of special libraries. Conventioneers will find the promotional demonstration by an experienced special librarian of use in their own communities. The afternoon will be devoted to the annual Group and Chapter Relations meeting. During the evening, the members will separate into the first series of Group meetings which will extend, with certain interruptions, throughout the week. Programs for these meetings are now in preparation by national Group Chairmen and their California representatives.

The Association's Executive Board and Advisory Council will hold an open meeting on Tuesday morning. All members are urged to attend this meeting as matters of special and immediate importance to all are to be threshed out. Following an afternoon spent in Group consideration, an evening of entertainment is planned.

Then follows two full days of attention to Special Library problems, days devoted to Group meetings and visits to special libraries where in some cases programs will be offered and in others tours and open-houses are planned.

Thursday evening has been preempted by our sister Chapter members of the San Francisco Bay Region in order that they might bring to you before you leave the full flavor of Old California. Days of '49 will be re-lived

in an out-door "Centennial Swing," an event that will be filled with all the color and romance that was California's a hundred years ago, and all at the nominal cost of transportation fees and a barbecue supper, perhaps \$4.00 in all.

Friday will hold mixed business and pleasure. The day opens with the Association's annual business meeting. The incoming Board members will hold their first meeting, a closed meeting, in the afternoon. All other conventioners will be entertained by a tour of several motion picture studios. The week's activities will close with a cruise to Catalina Island on Saturday.

But these are not all the highlights of the week. An Employment Office will operate full force from Monday through Friday. Exhibitors will display their wares and services of interest and importance to special librarians in approximately forty booths in the Biltmore from Tuesday morning to Friday noon. Sightseeing tours to begin at the old Plaza Church have been arranged for pre-conventioners many of whom will arrive on the special New York Central train for SLAers on Saturday morning, June 11. One such trip is planned through Hollywood, Beverly Hills and Westwood (tentative price, \$2.60); the other has set its goal for Padua Hills with stops at San Gabriel Mission and the Guasti Winery on the way (tentative price, \$4.50 plus lunch). A tour of the Huntington Library is planned for mid-week. Post-Convention plans will be announced by other West Coast Chapters for those who plan to accompany the New York Central Convention train to other cities. Bus transportation for all Los Angeles events away from the Biltmore Hotel and vicinity has been arranged.

A complete Convention schedule will appear in an early issue of *SPECIAL*

LIBRARIES. You will receive hotel reservation and Convention pre-registration forms by mail during February. It will assist the committees-in-charge if these forms are fully checked and returned to them as soon as possible. It is essential that all hotel reservations be made through the Convention's Housing Committee, Chairman Katherine Laich, Los Angeles Public Library. Hotel rates announced to date are:

HOTEL ALEXANDRIA —

Doubles—\$7.50 to \$9.00; Twins—\$8.50 to \$10.00; Singles—\$1.00 less than double rate; Three persons—\$2.50 each.

HOTEL BILTMORE —

Doubles—\$9.00 to \$10.00; Twins—\$10.00-\$12.00; Singles—\$8.00; Triples and Suites.

HOTEL CLARK —

Doubles—\$4.00 to \$5.00; Twins—\$5.50 to \$6.00; Three persons—\$7.00 to \$9.00.

HOTEL COMMODORE —

Doubles—\$3.50; Twins—\$4.00 to \$5.00; Three persons—\$5.00 to \$6.00.

HOTEL FIGUEROA —

Doubles—\$3.00 to \$4.00; Twins—\$5.00; Three persons—\$6.00.

HOTEL MAYFAIR —

Doubles—\$4.00 to \$6.00; Twins—\$6.00 to \$7.50; Singles—\$4.00; Three persons—\$9.00 to \$15.00.

HOTEL SAN CARLOS —

Doubles—\$3.50; Twins—\$6.00; Three persons—\$7.00.

Rates here quoted are tentative and subject to later verification.

All listed hotels are in the Biltmore Hotel general area.

Your Convention Committee has attempted in all its planning to provide for you not only a week filled with challenging ideas and "Blueprints For Action," but also a holiday from which you may return refreshed in body and spirit and, we hope, with personal coffers not too sadly depleted. Los Angeles welcomes you; may you all attend your Association's 40th Annual Convention.

HAZEL A. PULLING

Convention Chairman, 1949

Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux Twenty-third Annual Conference, September 17-19, 1948

By RUTH M. JACOBS

Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland

ASLIB's annual Conference was convened this year in the country. Ashorne Hill, near Leamington Spa in Warwickshire, is a large baronial mansion which has been extended by means of numerous smaller buildings to the dimensions and capacities of a fully equipped conference center. The meeting hall, cafeteria and lounge, the swimming pool, tennis courts and gardens are spacious and attractive. Warwickshire is a delightful county, September a beautiful month. All in all the location was a most successful and happy choice.

The meetings themselves were somewhat different in character from the usual ones. Preprints, of which a set has been sent to SLA Headquarters, were distributed in advance, but it was not always taken for granted that the audience had read them. The speakers either would "summarize" the content—and amusingly, the summary was sometimes longer than the original—or they would explain in detail the purpose of the paper, history of the project, reasons for consideration at the meeting, and so forth.

The extensive activities of Aslib were apparent in the report of its Director, Miss E. M. R. Ditmas, which was presented at the first general meeting. Amalgamation with the British Society for International Bibliography occurred in January 1948. To fill the gap thus created, the British National Committee on Documentation was inaugurated in February, with Aslib providing the secretariat.

Special committees were organized on significant problems. That on the Mechanized Distribution of Information was

called by Aslib in June 1947 to: assist Aslib to form a clearing-house for information on mechanization; answer specific problems referred to it; recommend the publication of manuals, bibliographies and similar material; and eventually compile a report. Already published is the bibliography on the uses of punched cards which appeared in the March 1948 issue of the *Journal of Documentation*.

After the 1947 Aslib Conference, a Committee on the Format and Efficiency of Periodicals was set up in December. Discussion has been limited to scientific and technical periodicals published by learned societies and similar organizations. It has also considered for the British Standards Institution the draft standard on the *Presentation des périodiques* prepared by Committee 46 (Documentation) of the International Organization for Standardization. Comments on it were submitted at the "restricted" F.I.D. Conference at the Hague in June. The committee also prepared *The Make-up of Periodicals; The Effect of Format on Efficiency*, for the Royal Society's Conference on Scientific Information Services in July. (Royal Society Conference Paper, No. 18)

The Director continued to represent Aslib on the Library Committee of the British National Co-operating Body of UNESCO which, during the year, dealt with such matters as the transformation of the Inter-allied Book Center into a National Book Center for Great Britain; UNESCO's proposed scheme for international book coupons; and the organization of international exchanges of publications.

In its relations with the British Standards Institution, Aslib was represented on the sub-committee responsible for the English edition of the U.D.C.; the sub-committee on abbreviation of titles of periodicals; the sub-committee considering and reporting on the international draft standards on the terminology of documentary reproduction, photographic reproduction of documents on film, and photographic reproduction of documents on paper; and the sub-committee on the transliteration of Cyrillic characters.

In the publications program, a new periodical, *Aslib Proceedings*, is planned to amalgamate the material hitherto published in the *Proceedings of the B.S.I.B.* and in the *Reports of the Proceedings of the Annual Conferences* of Aslib. Also published were the *Catalogue of Medical Films*; Aslib Pamphlets, No. 1, *How to Take, Keep and Use Notes* by J. E. Holmstrom, and No. 2, *Reference Books for the Works Library* by R. Brightman; *British Sources and Information* by T. Besterman; the first of the *Aslib Guides to Sources of Information in Great Britain: The Paper Industry*.

The training of special librarians has been of particular interest to Aslib for some time. Last April, a five-day Aslib Study Group was organized for about 70 students. The program consisted of visits to libraries, talks on special librarianship, and discussion with the more experienced members of Aslib over afternoon tea at Chaucer House. The first morning of the Conference was devoted to the consideration of "The Training of the Information Officer."

"The Art and Technique of Book Reviewing" was another meeting of as much interest to American as to British librarians. There is no publication there similar to the *Technical Book Review Index*, referred to as "excellent" by one speaker. The paper shortage plus a certain tradition in book reviewing limit and delay reviews which do appear.

Other sessions considered "The Significance to Special Librarians and Information Officers of the Royal Society's Scientific Information Conference"; "Press Cuttings"; "The History and Compilation of Whitaker's Almanac"; and "Practical Applications of International Collaboration in Documentation."

Of interest, too, was Mr. E. J. Carter's talk on UNESCO's place in international collaboration. He explained UNESCO's great efforts to promote international collaboration, to perform a catalyst function, and pointed out the fact that it is increasingly clear that documentary services underlie the problems in all fields of international collaboration.

Social activities at the Conference included a bus trip to Stratford to the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre; an informal social with a display of magic by a fellow librarian, followed by dancing (there were over 200 present, with equally as many men as women); eating berries along the hedgerows, chasing sheep and other simple sports.

Not only I, but all those there felt that the magnificent weather and the gracious and lovely manor, coupled with a lively Aslib Conference had provided a week-end long to be remembered.



International Federation of Library Associations Convenes for 14th Session in London

By RUTH M. JACOBS

Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland

THE 14th Session of the International Federation of Library Associations was held in London on September 24, 1948, with approximately 60 representatives from 22 countries attending. The activities of the meeting were of two kinds: plenary meetings of delegates and meetings of sub-committees. At the plenary meetings, the international library situation as a whole was reviewed; at the committee meetings, practical discussion of committee business took place. As the Vice-President, Mr. Milton E. Lord, pointed out on several occasions, there was a tendency to make this a "petit congrès" since the last international library congress had been held eighteen years ago in Spain. Actually, no international library congress is scheduled until 1950 when, at the invitation of A.L.A., M.L.A. and S.L.A., the meeting will be held in the U.S.A.

The entire first meeting was given over to the report of Mr. E. J. Carter, Head of the Libraries Section of UNESCO. Embodied in Mr. Carter's report was a discussion of the international library summer school, a project designed to promote the growth of library work; the development of public libraries and the improvement of public library service throughout the world; and the establishment by UNESCO of six or seven fellowships for librarians from reconstruction countries. The report was concluded with a detailed account of UNESCO's work in the international distribution of publications, exchanges, abstracting, bibliographical

survey, archives, and other contributions.

The second plenary session, which convened the following day, was devoted to the presentation of the resolutions of the sub-committees, all of which will be published shortly by IFLA, and to the consideration of closer collaboration between UNESCO and TICER (Temporary International Council for Educational Reconstruction).

IFLA's Secretary-General, Dr. Sévensma, who has for many years been the driving force behind the organization, was honored on his sixtieth birthday with the establishment of the Sévensma-Prix of 1948. Announcement was made of the award of one thousand Swiss francs to Walter Alsted, of Sweden, for his paper "To Be or Not To Be Consistent." The 1950 prize will be given for an essay on a topic in the field of rural library service.

Presentation of national reports occupied the remainder of the time, five minutes being allotted for each country. Perhaps the most outstanding from the point of interest were the reports from Czechoslovakia and India, where library activity is receiving a new stimulus.

The following words of one of the delegates illustrate the keynote of expansion and progress upon which the 14th Session of IFLA closed:

"IFLA needs to be productive. In the old days it used to be quite sufficient to meet just for the sake of meeting. But national associations such as the Library Association and the A.L.A. have got beyond the point of existing. IFLA must now become an active, creative organization. It is the responsibility of all of us to see that it does so."

SLA CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

The NEW YORK Chapter suggests these resolutions for the New Year and we think they are worthy of adoption by the entire membership:

1. Pay SLA dues promptly
2. Take an active interest in Group, Chapter and National affairs.

We hear that some Chapters do not send dues promptly for new memberships to Headquarters. In some instances dues have been held for as long as four months—a procedure which obviously makes for inefficiency all around. Send all dues to Headquarters *immediately*.

One of the biggest jobs confronting the new President each year is the appointment of committees. Mrs. Ruth H. Hooker, President Elect, is eager to make her appointments early so that committees can hold at least one meeting each during the Convention if they wish. Will each Chapter President make some suggestion to her for appointments as every committee will have at least one vacancy. Consider your membership carefully and send names to Mrs. Hooker immediately.

RECRUITING

Was your Chapter one of the 1948 winners of a Quarrie Award for Recruiting for Librarianship? If not, now is the time to work for a 1949 award.

The Quarrie Corporation (whose name was recently changed to Field Enterprises, Inc.) publishers of the *World Book Encyclopedia* and *Childcraft*, will contribute awards for the most effective recruiting activities reported to the A.L.A. Board of Education for Librarianship during the year 1949-50. Three awards of \$300, \$200, \$100 respectively, for activities in 1949 will be granted at the A.L.A. Midwinter Conference in January 1950.

Any library, library school, library organization or group other than the board, or an individual, will be eligible to receive an award. Any project or activity, designed to interest young men and women in librarianship, that is reported to the board will receive full consideration. Reports on activities in progress during 1949 and 1950 must be received at A.L.A. Headquarters on or before December 1 of the same year.

Anna Irene Marten, Chairman of the National Recruiting Committee, reports that fifteen Chapters have appointed recruiting chairmen. They endeavor to secure publicity in local newspapers, work with vocational guidance groups in high schools and colleges, and distribute publicity pamphlets about special libraries. Some have presented radio programs on

librarianship. Two others plan to participate in a radio quiz program.

The LOUISIANA Chapter is working particularly hard on recruiting activities because their members believe it is essential in an area where the field of special libraries is relatively new.

A trio of librarians, Natalie Frank, Geyer Newell & Ganger, Dorothy Orde, Joseph Bulova School of Watchmaking, and Regina Marrus, Macfadden Publications, appeared on a television program WABD, NEW YORK, November 10, and discussed library work and SLA.

? HAVE YOU SEEN ?

... the pamphlet *Do You Know Your Library*, edited by Eugene B. Jackson, President, CINCINNATI Chapter. It describes the work of the Wright Field Reference Library, the largest library in the Air Force. Send requests for copies to:

Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

Attn: Air Documents Division MCIDKL

... the brochure *Old Story With New Lines* issued by the Carnegie Library School. One of the stories, called "The Business Man's Girl Friday," features Virginia Garland, President of the PITTSBURGH Chapter and Librarian of the Philadelphia Company.

... the handsome report of the second regional meeting of the Special Libraries Association which was held in Rochester by the TORONTO - MONTREAL - WESTERN NEW YORK Chapters. Reprints of the excellent papers given on the training of professional and sub-professional assistants were included.

Ella Chalfant was guest speaker at the Pittsburgh Female College Association. She spoke on "Old Wills in Pennsylvania."

VISITING LIBRARIANS

Mrs. Hedvig Schaaning of the Norwegian Foreign Office Library at Oslo, Norway, was guest speaker at the PUGET SOUND meeting, November 5.

Two Australian Librarians, Edith Sims, Librarian of the Sydney Technical College, and Nancy Booker, Library, the Sydney Teachers College, visited Minneapolis and St. Paul libraries during Christmas week.

Miss Kishori Sanzgiri, Assistant Librarian, Federal Reserve Bank of India in Bombay, and student at George Peabody Library School in Nashville, Tennessee, did practice work during the Christmas holidays in the Federal Reserve Bank and Mercantile-Commerce Bank and Trust Company, St. Louis, Missouri.

Methods Meetings are always interesting to all Chapters. CLEVELAND's December 8 meeting on "Adaptation of General Library Techniques to Special Library Service" sounds very good as did New York's Shop Talk meeting of January 11.

The name of the CONNECTICUT Chapter has been changed from "Connecticut" to CONNECTICUT VALLEY Chapter by constitutional amendment.

KANSAS CITY, our baby Chapter, sends an SOS to all Chapters for copies of SPECIAL LIBRARIES. Please send any extra copies to Miss Bertha Ferguson, Librarian, Kansas City Junior College, Kansas City, Missouri.

In December, PHILADELPHIA held a confer-

ence type meeting on Censorship. The moral, legal, educational and political sides of the question were considered.

SAN FRANCISCO is calling for volunteers to serve on the reception committee for the post-Convention tour to San Francisco. The Bay Area Libraries will hold open-house for the visitors on June 23-24.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA is full of Convention Activities and it hopes to have the complete Convention schedule ready by February.

REMEMBER, JUNE 11-18 ARE THE DATES. LOS ANGELES THE PLACE.

ELIZABETH W. OWENS,

Chapter Liaison Officer and
Chairman, Chapter Relations Committee.

SLA GROUP HIGHLIGHTS¹

The *Social Science Group Directory* is a national directory of members of the SOCIAL SCIENCE GROUP, 1947, and is available for fifty cents from John E. Smith, Librarian, Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Los Angeles 24, California.

The SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY GROUP Chairman, Gretchen Little, has received a signed petition from metallurgical librarians asking that a Metallurgical Section be formed within the SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY GROUP. Mr. John T. Milek is representative of the newly proposed Section. Miss Little reports that she hopes it will be possible to announce formal recognition of this Section at the annual Convention. The Translation Index, Science-Technology Group, chairmanship has been assumed by Wayne Kalenich of the Southwest Research Institute, San Antonio, Texas. Too few libraries are willing to contribute their translations, but many are making use of those available. The usefulness of the project depends on the cooperation of all libraries who have translations.

The P. B. Numerical Index Project of the SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY GROUP is preparing an index to cover volumes 1-10 of the *Bibliography of Scientific and Industrial Reports*. The committee, under the chairmanship of Miss Anne Nicholson, hopes to have the index ready for distribution by April 1949.

The SCIENCE-TECHNOLOGY GROUP announces that they will continue to issue their quarterly *Bulletin* for the time being although

the subscription list has fallen far short of the expected 500 mark. The GROUP plans to bring the question of continuing publication of the *Bulletin* before the Convention in June for discussion and decision. Anyone interested in subscribing may do so by sending \$1.50 to Miss Miriam Huddle, Eastern Regional Research Laboratory, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Chestnut Hill Station, Philadelphia, Pa.

Of interest to FINANCIAL GROUP members in the *Bulletin* for December 1948, is a long list of serial publications of foreign central banks. This list is arranged by country with a list of their publications and the frequency of issue.

The BUSINESS GROUP *Bulletin* for December 1948, contains a selected list of "Sources of Industrial Training Films." This list should be of interest to many in this Group and other Groups.

The first issue of the NEWSPAPER GROUP's new *Bulletin* has been published, and if sufficient interest is shown, it will become a regular publication. The price will probably be between one and two dollars a year. The Group plans to issue eight numbers a year. Anyone who is interested should write to the editor, Mr. Milton A. Prensky, Pathfinder News Service, Washington 5, D. C.

The international aspect of SLA is emphasized by the number of foreign librarians who have recently visited the Executive Offices. These include Miss Edith Sims, Sydney Technical College, Sydney, Australia; Miss Barbara Johnston, Council for Scientific & Industrial Research, Melbourne, Australia; Mr. Karl-Emerik Olsoni, Finnish State Institute for Technical Research, Helsinki, Finland; and Miss Evelyn Campbell, Nova Scotia Research

¹SLA Group Highlights for this issue was prepared by Miss Geraldine D. Anderson, Librarian, Research and Development Division, Pittsburgh Consolidation Coal Company, Library, Pa.

Foundation, Halifax. Christmas greetings from SLA members in Denmark, Germany, Belgium, France, Egypt and Hawaii were also received at the Headquarters Office.

HELEN ROGERS,
Group Liaison Officer
and

Chairman, Group Relations Committee.

Announcements

Miss Mary Ethel Jameson Retires

Miss Mary Ethel Jameson was the guest of honor at a dinner given by the Financial and Advertising Groups of SLA on January 19 at the Skipper restaurant on East 48th Street, New York City. The occasion marked Miss Jameson's retirement from her position as Librarian of the National Industrial Conference Board which took effect on January 1, 1949. She had served in that capacity for the past 26 years and prior to that time was associated with the New York Public Library. During World War I, Miss Jameson served with the American Red Cross in France where she was engaged in medical research and first aid in the hospitals. Her present plans include a four months' trip to Europe beginning in March.

TBRI and SPECIAL LIBRARIES Index

Due to postal regulations, the title page of *Technical Book Review Index* had to be mailed separately this year. It is, however, part of the December 1948 issue as formerly. The Index to SPECIAL LIBRARIES will be mailed with the March 1949 issue of the magazine, out about March 15.

David Kessler to General Motors Corporation

Word has just been received of the resignation of Mr. David Kessler, national Treasurer of Special Libraries Association, from his position as Librarian of the U. S. Railroad Retirement Board in Chicago, in order to accept the appointment as Librarian of the Department of Public Relations, General Motors Corporation, Detroit 2, Michigan. After eight years of service with the Railroad Retirement Board, Mr. Kessler assumed his new duties on January 24, 1949.

Miss Rebecca B. Rankin and Assistant Cited

At a "Thank You" meeting of the Mayor's Committee for the Commemoration of the Golden Anniversary of the City of New York, Mr. Grover A. Whalen, Chairman of the Committee, presented citations to Miss Rebecca B. Rankin, Librarian of the Municipal Reference Library, and Mr. James Katsaros, her assistant, who served as department representative on the Committee. Mr. Whalen praised Miss

Rankin for her work on the Committee and expressed the Committee's appreciation for the manner in which the Municipal Reference Library could be depended upon to supply the facts and figures of all the City's departments for the years 1898 to 1948.

"Citation in Recognition of Services Rendered by the Municipal Reference Library" takes the form of a golden plaque which is now hung on the wall of the Library. A bronze medal with an appropriate design was given as a memento of the Anniversary by the Mayor.

Mount Holyoke College Institute on the United Nations

The second session of the Mount Holyoke College Institute on the United Nations will be held from June 26th through July 23, 1949. The Institute will again provide men and women concerned with world affairs, with an opportunity for study and discussion in small groups with United Nations leaders, officials of the United States and foreign governments, and other specialists in international affairs. Practical problems in fostering international understanding on the community level will be considered. Lectures and discussions on the college campus situated in the Connecticut River Valley and weekly trips to Lake Success to observe the United Nations at work are features of the program, which has been planned with the aid of a notable group of consultants and officials of the United Nations.

Inaugurated last summer under the sponsorship of Mount Holyoke College, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and 23 other sponsors including individuals and 5 New England colleges, Amherst, Brown, Smith, Wellesley, and Williams, the Institute is open to men and women able to make a direct contribution to international understanding in their communities: for example, leaders of community forums; heads of international relations programs in business and service clubs and civil organizations; teachers in secondary schools, normal schools, and colleges; radio and newspapermen; clergymen; librarians; and leaders in workers' education. A limit of 100 members has been set for each of the four weeks to permit a high degree of individual participation. Members will be accepted from all over the United States and from foreign countries.

Fees for the four-week session are \$225 which includes \$85 for tuition and \$140 for board and room. For a single week, charges are \$25 for tuition and \$35 for board and room. A limited number of scholarships are available. Applications for admission and scholarships should be made immediately, for they will be considered in the order in which they are received.

Aslib

THE ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION BUREAUX, better known as Aslib, was formed in 1924 to provide opportunities for the discussion of certain common problems by experts engaged in different fields of activity. Its objects are to facilitate the co-ordination and systematic use of sources of knowledge and information over the widest possible field; to encourage the free interchange of non-confidential information, and the establishment and maintenance of special libraries and information bureaux — in short, to act as a clearinghouse for all such services on any and every specialized subject.

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The USBE is located in the Library of Congress, Washington 25, D. C. Miss Alice Dulany Ball, former Acting Director of the American Book Center, is the Executive Director. Questions concerning any point on the program of USBE should be addressed to the Washington Office.

SLA Awards Committee

All nominations for the 1948 Award should be sent to the Awards Committee Chairman, Miss Betty Joy Cole, Calco Chemical Division, American Cyanamid Company, Bound Brook, N. J., not later than March 1, 1949.

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Report of 1948 Convention Available

The Appendix to the Library of Congress *Information Bulletin* of June 15-21, 1948, is "a running account of the 39th Annual Convention of Special Libraries Association, June 6-12, 1948," by Jane Brewer, Convention Chairman. Copies of the *Bulletin* are available upon request from the Group Liaison Officer, Miss Helen Rogers, Librarian, Indiana Department of Public Welfare, 141 South Meridian Street, Indianapolis, Indiana; and from the Chapter Liaison Officer, Mrs. Elizabeth Owens, Librarian, Mercantile-Commerce Bank & Trust Company, Locust-8th-St. Charles, St. Louis 1, Mo.

Obituary

Mr. John Milton McNeill

Mr. John Milton McNeill, Chief of the Selection and Search Section of the National War College, died at George Washington University Hospital in Washington, D. C., on June 13, 1948. Mr. McNeill, an Active member of Special Libraries Association for the past three years, served as Secretary of the Social Science Group of the Washington Chapter of SLA for the year 1947-48. Mr. McNeill held a Bachelor's Degree from the University of North Carolina where he also received a Master's Degree in history and government in 1931, and later a Bachelor's Degree from the University's School of Library Science. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the District Library Association and the American Library Association.

Miss Laura H. Eales

Miss Laura A. Eales, first president of the Connecticut Chapter of SLA, and an Active member of the Association since 1934, died on January 2, 1949. Miss Eales was Head of the Technology Department of the Bridgeport Public Library and had just completed 48 years of service with that institution at the time of her death.

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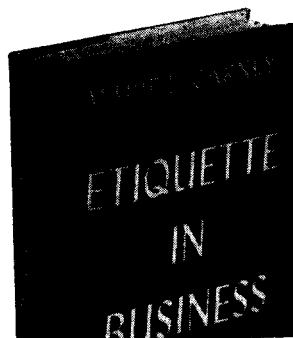
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